

4.0 GLOSSARY

4.1 DEFINITIONS AND COMPUTATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE QUICK LOOK ANNUAL SUMMARY STATISTICS REPORT

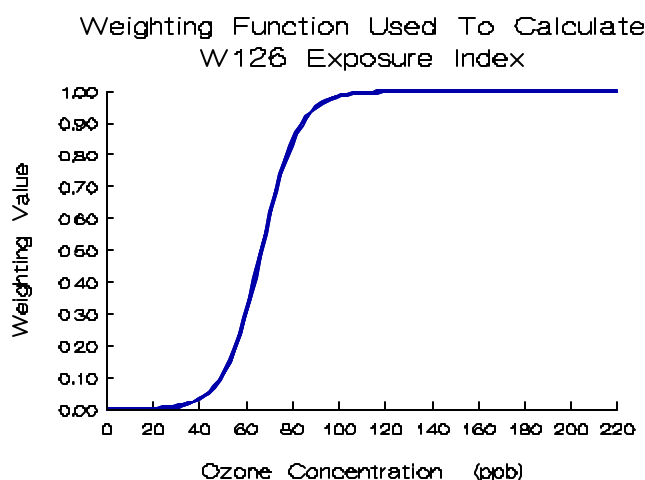
The National Park Service Quick Look Annual Summary Statistics Table (Page 2-8) provides ozone summary statistics for various indices computed on a monthly basis for an entire year. Growing season (generically defined to be May 1 - September 30) and annual statistics are also presented under the "MAY-SEP" and "ANNUAL" columns, respectively. All concentrations are expressed in the units of parts per billion (PPB) and exposures in parts per billion-hours (PPB-HR). The definitions for each of the statistics appearing on the Quick Look Annual Summary Table are given below.

- (1) **Daily 1-Hr Maximum.** The maximum 1-hour average concentration recorded during each month, the growing season or the year regardless of the number of valid hourly observations recorded during a given day. The number in parentheses below this statistic, (N), indicates the number of days in the month, growing season, or year with valid data.
- (2) **Average Daily Maximum.** The average of all Daily 1-Hr Maxima during the month regardless of the number of Daily 1-Hr Maxima recorded during the month. For the "MAY-SEP" column the average of all the Daily Maxima recorded during the growing season is given. For the "ANNUAL" column the average of all the Daily Maxima is given. N is as in (1) above.
- (3) **Maximum Daily Mean.** The maximum of the valid daily means computed for each month, the growing season ("MAY-SEP" column), and the year ("ANNUAL" column). A valid daily mean is one for which 75% of the observations are available for each day, i.e., 18 hours. N is the number of days during each month, growing season, and year with at least 18 observations.
- (4) **Average Daily Mean.** The average of all valid daily means for the month, the growing season ("MAY-SEP" column), and the year ("ANNUAL" column). N is as in (3) above.
- (5) **Max Peak:Min Ratio.** The ratio of the Daily 1-Hr Maximum to the Daily 1-Hr Minimum. A ratio is computed only if a valid Daily Mean is computed and if the Daily 1-Hr Minimum is not equal to zero. N is the number of days with a valid Peak:Min ratio.
- (6) **Average Peak:Min Ratio.** The average of all Peak:Min ratios for the month, growing season, or year. N is as in (5) above.
- (7) **Max 9AM-4PM Average.** The maximum of all valid 9AM-4PM Averages computed for the month, growing season, or year. A valid 9AM-4PM Average is one which has 75% of the observations available during that time period (i.e., 6 hours. N is the number of days with valid averages.)

- (8) **Monthly 9AM-4PM Average.** The average of all valid 9AM-4PM Averages for the month, growing season, or year. N is as in (7) above.
- (9) **Max 7AM-7PM Average.** The maximum of all valid 7AM-7PM Averages computed for the month, growing season, or year. A valid 7AM-7PM Average is one which has 75% of the observations available during that time period, i.e., 9 hours. N is the number of days with valid averages.
- (10) **Monthly 7AM-7PM Average.** The average of all valid 7AM-7PM averages for the month, growing season, or year. N is as in (9) above.
- (11) **Monthly Mean.** The average of all 1-Hr ozone concentrations recorded during the month, growing season, or year. A mean is computed regardless of the number of hours with valid data. N is the number of hours with valid observations.
- (12) **SUM0 Exposure Index.** The monthly sum of all hourly ozone concentrations. Units are PPB-HR. The "MAY-SEP" column sums across the months of May through September to give the cumulative exposure for the growing season. The "ANNUAL" column sums across every month to give the cumulative exposure for the year. N is the number of hours with valid observations and is the same N as in (11) above.
- (13) **SUM60 Exposure Index.** The monthly sum of all hourly ozone concentrations equaling or exceeding 60 PPB. Units are PPB-HR. The "MAY-SEP" column sums across the months of May through September to give the cumulative exposure for the growing season. The "ANNUAL" column sums across every month to give the cumulative exposure for the year. N is the number of hours equaling or exceeding 60 PPB during the month, growing season, or year.
- (14) **SUM80 Exposure Index.** The monthly sum of all hourly ozone concentrations equaling or exceeding 80 PPB. Units are PPB-HR. The "MAY-SEP" column sums across the months of May through September to give the cumulative exposure for the growing season. The "ANNUAL" column sums across every month to give the cumulative exposure for the year. N is the number of hours equaling or exceeding 80 PPB during the month, growing season, or year.
- (15) **W126 Exposure Index.** The monthly sum of all hourly ozone concentrations where each concentration is weighted by a function that gives greater emphasis to the higher hourly concentrations while still including the lower ones. This weighting function provides a weighting value that is unique for each hourly ozone concentration. The weighting function, as described by Lefohn, Laurence, and Kohut¹ is:

$$w_i = \frac{1}{1 + 4403 \exp(-.126c_i)}$$

where



w_i = weighting value for hourly concentration i ,
and
 c_i = hourly concentration i in PPB.

The graph of weighting value versus ozone concentration, in the figure to the left, illustrates the greater weights given to higher hourly ozone concentrations.

Each hour's weighting value is multiplied by its corresponding hourly concentration. This product is summed over all the valid hours in each month to calculate the monthly W126 exposure.

Thus, the monthly W126 exposure is:

$$W126 = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i c_i$$

where

W126 = monthly W126 exposure index,
 w_i = weighting value for hourly concentration i ,
 c_i = hourly concentration i in PPB, and
 n = number of hours in the month with valid ozone concentrations.

The "MAY-SEP" column sums across the months of May through September to give the cumulative exposure for the growing season. The "ANNUAL" column sums across every month to give the cumulative exposure for the year. The exposure units are PPB-HR.

Because each hour contributes to this exposure index, N is the number of hours with valid observations and is the same N as in (11) and (12) above.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency usually considers air quality statistics, such as a mean, to be "valid" (i.e., representative of the parameter being estimated for the time interval in question) only if 75% or more of the total possible observations have been measured during that time interval. Therefore, one should exercise caution when comparing these statistics between months and sites, particularly those that are not averages (e.g., maxima and exposures) whenever the number of valid observations is less than 75% of the total possible.

References

1. Lefohn, A.S., J. A. Laurence, and R. J. Kohut. 1988. A Comparison of Indices That Describe the Relationship Between Exposure to Ozone and Reduction in the Yield of Agricultural Crops. *Atmospheric Environment* 22, 1229-1240.

4.2 AIR QUALITY GLOSSARY

Acid Deposition: Air pollution produced when acid chemicals are incorporated into rain, snow, fog, or mist.

Aerometric Information Retrieval System (AIRS): A computer-based database of U.S. air pollution information administered by the EPA Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency).

AIRWeb: Air Resources Web, an air quality information retrieval system for U.S. parks and wildlife refuges developed by the Air Resources Division of the National Park Service and the Air Quality Branch of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Air Pollutant: An unwanted chemical or other material found in the air.

Air Pollution: Degradation of air quality resulting from unwanted chemicals or other materials occurring in the air.

Air Quality: The properties and degree of purity of air to which people and natural and heritage resources are exposed (in the context of national parks).

Air Pollution Control Permitting Process: Process by which facilities are permitted to emit specified types and quantities of air pollutants.

Air Quality Related Values (AQRVs): Values including visibility, flora, fauna, cultural and historical resources, odor, soil, water, and virtually all resources that are dependent upon and affected by air quality. "These values include visibility and those scenic, cultural, biological, and recreation resources of an area that are affected by air quality." (*43 Fed. Reg. 15016*)

Ambient Air: Air that is accessible to the public.

Class I: Areas of the country set aside under the Clean Air Act to receive the most stringent degree of air quality protection.

Class II: Areas of the country protected under the Clean Air Act but identified for somewhat less stringent protection from air pollution damage than Class I, except in specified cases.

Clean Air Act: Originally passed in 1963, our current national air pollution control program is based on the 1970 version of the law. Substantial revisions were made by the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments.

Continuous Sampling Device: An air analyzer that measures air quality components continuously.

Criteria: Information on health and/or environmental effects of pollution (in the context of criteria air pollutants).

Criteria Air Pollutant: A group of very common air pollutants regulated by EPA on the basis of criteria and for which a National Ambient Air Quality Standard is established (SO₂, NO₂, PM₁₀, Pb, CO, O₃).

Emissions: Release of pollutants into the air from a source.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): The federal agency responsible for regulating air quality.

Monitoring: Measurement of air pollution.

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS): Permissible levels of criteria air pollutant established to protect public health and welfare.

Ozone (O₃): A criteria air pollutant that is a strong oxidizing agent, reactive with many other compounds and surfaces, and a health hazard in high concentrations. Ozone is formed by nitrogen oxides and organic compounds reacting in sunlight.

Source: Any place or object from which air pollutants are released. Sources that are fixed in space are stationary sources; sources that move are mobile sources.

Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂): A criteria air pollutant that is a gas produced by burning coal and some industrial processes.

* Recent updates to this glossary may be found on the NPSARD AIRWeb - <http://www.aqd.nps.gov/natnet/ard/glossary.htm>.
